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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT**28 DECEMBER 2017**

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Sacramento – CHP Arrest Suspect In Football Size Rocks Being Thrown Onto I-5

(U) California Highway Patrol (CHP) officials they have arrested the man they believe has been throwing boulders – some the size of footballs – at cars on Interstate 5 in Sacramento over two months, injuring several drivers whose windshields were smashed. Officials say the man is suspected of up to five cases of rock throwing off overpasses around Florin Road, South Land Park Drive and Pocket Road. The man was identified as Pedro Ruiz Espinoza, 47, a parolee who has two prior arrests for similar rock-throwing assaults in Sacramento, CHP spokesman Adrian Quintero said.

SOURCE: 27 December 2017, [The Sacramento Bee](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – ISIS Fighter With American Accent Urges Homegrown Violent Extremists

(U) Washington – In a video released yesterday by the Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS), a one-legged fighter identified by the group as American, calls on Muslims in the United States to “take advantage” of the country’s gun laws to obtain weapons and carry out attacks. The FBI had no immediate comment on the man’s identity nor the potential threat.

SOURCE: 27 December 2017, [The Washington Post](#)

(U) Ohio – Human Trafficking Operation That Forced Children to Work on Egg Farms Busted

(U) Cleveland – A federal grand jury in Cleveland charged a fifth person in a human and labor-trafficking operation that authorities say forced children to work under deplorable conditions at egg farms in Ohio. Pablo Duran Ramirez, 49, is charged with forced labor and conspiracy and encouraging another person to illegally enter the United States, according to the US Attorney's Office. He was arrested Saturday by US Border Patrol agents while trying to cross the border between Mexico and the United States.

SOURCE: 27 December 2017, [Cleveland.com](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Afghanistan – ISIS Suicide Bombing Attack Kills At Least 40 People At Shiite Cultural Center

(U) Kabul – At least 41 people were killed and dozens more wounded today in a bombing at a Shiite cultural center in Kabul that also houses a news agency, Afghan officials said. ISIS has claimed responsibility for the attack. It was the latest in a series of mass-casualty attacks against Shiite targets by the militant group’s Afghan affiliate. The United Nations mission in Afghanistan has documented more than a dozen attacks since January 2016, with hundreds of Shiites dead or wounded.

SOURCE: 28 December 2017, [The New York Times](#)

(U) Brazil – Brazil Arrests Mexican Cartel Leader

(U) Sao Paulo – Brazilian police have arrested an alleged Mexican drug boss, federal prosecutors said yesterday, in a blow to one of the most powerful organizations in Mexico’s criminal underworld. According to the arrest warrant, police detained Jose Gonzalez Valencia, 42, a leader of the Jalisco New

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Generation Cartel (CJNG), with the intention of fulfilling a US extradition request. Once a little-known gang, the CJNG has grown in recent years to challenge the Sinaloa Cartel of captured kingpin Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman for primacy of the drug trade in Mexico.

SOURCE: 28 December 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Russia – Russian Government Confirms St Petersburg Supermarket Terror Attack

(U) St Petersburg – Russian President Vladimir Putin said today an explosion at a supermarket in St Petersburg yesterday was a "terrorist attack." A spokeswoman for the Investigative Committee of Russia said that an improvised device containing the equivalent of 200 grams of TNT detonated in one of the port city's supermarkets. The device included "lethal fragments" to increase casualties, the Russian Investigative Committee said.

SOURCE: 28 December 2017, [ABC News](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER**(U) Texas – Border Patrol Agent Injured By Bullet Fired From Mexico**

(U) Brownsville – A Border Patrol spokesman confirmed yesterday that one of its agents suffered a grazing wound to the back of his head from a bullet fired from Mexico sometime on 26 December. Border Patrol Spokesman Marcelino A. Medina said the agent was medically evaluated for the non-life threatening injury and released.

SOURCE: 26 December 2017, [Valley Morning Star](#)

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